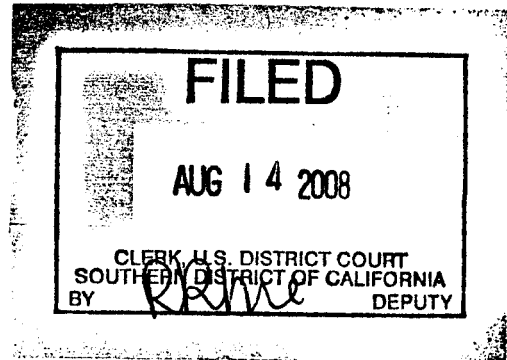


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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
 )  
Plaintiff, )  
 )  
v. )  
 )  
ALMA ALICIA TORRES-MELENA (2), )  
 )  
Defendant. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Magistrate Case No. 08MJ2343

**STIPULATION OF FACT AND JOINT  
MOTION FOR RELEASE OF  
MATERIAL WITNESS(ES) AND  
ORDER THEREON**

**(Pre-Indictment Fast-Track Program)**

**IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED** between the plaintiff, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by and through its counsel, Karen P. Hewitt, United States Attorney, and Carla J. Bressler, Assistant United States Attorney, and defendant ALMA ALICIA TORRES-MELENA, by and through and with the advice and consent of defense counsel, Siri Shetty, that:

1. Defendant agrees to execute this stipulation on or before the first preliminary hearing date and to participate in a full and complete inquiry by the Court into whether defendant knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily entered into it. Defendant agrees further to waive indictment and plead guilty to the pre-indictment information charging defendant with a non-mandatory minimum count of Bringing in Aliens Without Presentation and Aiding and Abetting, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(2)(B)(iii) and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

//

CJB:kmm:8/1/08

AATM

1           2.       Defendant acknowledges receipt of a plea agreement in this case and agrees to  
2 provide the signed, original plea agreement to the Government not later than five business days  
3 before the disposition date set by the Court.

4           3.       Defendant agrees to plead guilty to the charge pursuant to the plea agreement on or  
5 before **September 1, 2008**.

6           4.       The material witness, Arturo Ocegueda-Ramos, in this case:

7               a.       Is an alien with no lawful right to enter or remain in the United States;

8               b.       Entered or attempted to enter the United States illegally on or about July 29,  
9 2008;

10              c.       Was found in a vehicle in which defendant was a passenger at the Otay Mesa,  
11 California Port of Entry (POE) and that defendant knew or acted in reckless disregard of the fact that  
12 he was an alien with no lawful right to enter or remain in the United States;

13              d.       Was paying \$4,000 to others to be brought into the United States illegally  
14 and/or transported illegally to his destination therein; and,

15              e.       May be released and remanded immediately to the Department of Homeland  
16 Security for return to his country of origin.

17           5.       After the material witnesses are ordered released by the Court pursuant to this  
18 stipulation and joint motion, if defendant does not plead guilty to the charge set forth above, for any  
19 reason, or thereafter withdraws her guilty plea to that charge, defendant agrees that in any  
20 proceeding, including, but not limited to, motion hearings, trial, sentencing, appeal or collateral  
21 attack, that:

22              a.       The stipulated facts set forth in paragraph 4 above shall be admitted as  
23 substantive evidence;

24              b.       The United States may elicit hearsay testimony from arresting agents  
25 regarding any statements made by the material witness(es) provided in discovery, and such testimony  
26 shall be admitted as substantive evidence under Fed. R. Evid. 804(b)(3) as statements against interest  
27 of (an) unavailable witness(es); and,

AA T.

1 c. Understanding that under Crawford v. Washington, 124 S. Ct. 1354 (2004),  
2 "testimonial" hearsay statements are not admissible against a defendant unless defendant confronted  
3 and cross-examined the witness(es) who made the "testimonial" hearsay statements, defendant  
4 waives the right to confront and cross-examine the material witness(es) in this case.

5 6. By signing this stipulation and joint motion, defendant certifies that defendant has  
6 read it (or that it has been read to defendant in defendant's native language). Defendant certifies  
7 further that defendant has discussed the terms of this stipulation and joint motion with defense  
8 counsel and fully understands its meaning and effect.

9 Based on the foregoing, the parties jointly move the stipulation into evidence and for the  
10 immediate release and remand of the above-named material witness(es) to the Department of  
11 Homeland Security for return to his country of origin.

12 It is STIPULATED AND AGREED this date.

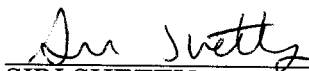
13 Respectfully submitted,

14 KAREN P. HEWITT  
15 United States Attorney

16 Dated: 8/14/08.

  
17 CARLA J. BRESSLER  
18 Assistant United States Attorney

19 Dated: 8/5/08.

  
20 SIRI SHETTY  
21 Defense Counsel for  
22 ALMA ALICIA TORRES-MELENA

23 Dated: 8/5/08.

X ALMA ALICIA TORRES MELENA  
24 ALMA ALICIA TORRES-MELENA  
25 Defendant  
26  
27  
28

**ORDER**

Upon joint application and motion of the parties, and for good cause shown,

**THE STIPULATION** is admitted into evidence, and,

**IT IS ORDERED** that the above-named material witness(es) be released and remanded forthwith to the Department of Homeland Security for return to his country of origin.

**SO ORDERED.**

Dated: 8/14/08

[Signature]  
United States Magistrate Judge